

Technical Notes

Registration. Reporting of Kansas vital events to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is mandated by law (K.S.A. 65-102, K.S.A. 65-2422b, K.S.A. 65-445). These reports are completed by the combined efforts of physicians, hospital personnel, funeral directors, attorneys, and local courts. All certificates and reports are filed with the Office of Vital Statistics by direct reporting.

Data Caveats.

- The dates used to calculate the month prenatal care began included the first day of the last menses before pregnancy and the date of the first prenatal visit.
- KDHE publishes data on Kansas resident births and deaths. If the birth occurs out of state and the state is not using the latest revision of the birth certificate, missing data may result. This is an important factor in Kansas border counties.
- This report includes non-stated (n.s.) in the denominators (totals) for all calculations that result in percentages. These percentages may differ from those in the Kansas Annual Summary of Vital Statistics, 2016 where n.s. is subtracted from the total (denominator).
- Residence data is information compiled according to the usual residence regardless of where the event occurred (including events occurring out-of-state).

Criteria for Small for Gestational Age (SGA). Small for gestational age is when the infant's birth-weight is less than the 10th percentile, (lowest 9.9 percent of births). These infants may be normal but small or pathologically small (intrauterine growth restriction). Many different things can lead to intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR). An unborn baby may not get enough nutrition because of:

- High altitudes
- Multiple pregnancies (twins, triplets, etc.)
- Placenta problems
- High blood pressure (pre-eclampsia)

Congenital or chromosomal abnormalities are often associated with below-normal weight. Infections during pregnancy that affect the developing baby, such as rubella, cytomegalovirus, toxoplasmosis, and syphilis may also affect the weight of the developing baby. Infants born small for gestational age but constitutionally normal may represent 40% or more of the SGA infants at term.

Definitions

Live Birth

The complete expulsion or extraction of a product of human conception from its mother, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, that, after such expulsion or extraction, shows any evidence of life such as breathing, heartbeat, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or voluntary muscle movement, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta attached.

Poor birth outcomes

Refers to infants who have at least one of the following: prematurity, congenital anomaly, low birth weight or an abnormal condition of the newborn.

Prematurity

Less than 37 weeks gestation.

Congenital Anomalies

Defects existing at and usually before birth regardless of causation.

Low Birth Weight

Weight of a fetus or infant at delivery which is less than 2,500 grams (less than five pounds, 8 ounces).

Abnormal Conditions of the Newborn

Need for breathing/respiratory assistance, admission to neonatal intensive care, surfactant replacement therapy, need for antibiotics for infection, presence of seizures or neurological dysfunction and birth injuries requiring medical intervention.

Prenatal Care

Pregnancy-related health care services provided to a woman between conception and delivery.

Trimester

A three-month period of time. First trimester care, for example, refers to medical care initiated in the first three months of pregnancy.

Weeks Gestation

The number of weeks between the first day of the last reported normal menses and the delivery of the fetus or infant.

WIC Services

WIC is a federally funded nutrition program for women, infants, and children. WIC provides healthy foods, education and counseling, breastfeeding support, and referrals for health care at no cost.

Adequacy of prenatal care

An assessment of adequacy of prenatal care measured by the APNCU index is a composite measure based on gestational age of the newborn, the trimester prenatal care began and the number of prenatal visits made (also known as the Kotelchuck Index).

Body Mass Index (BMI)

An index for relating a person's weight in pound times 703, and dividing by their height in inches squared.